

What is claimed is:

1. An ink supply system comprising:

a recording apparatus having a recording head configured to discharge ink, said recording head including an ink storage chamber storing ink therein and a plurality of ink receiving portions in communication with said ink storage chamber;

an ink cartridge detachably attached to said recording apparatus, said ink cartridge including an ink container containing ink therein and a plurality of ink supplying portions complementary to said plurality of ink receiving portions, said plurality of ink supplying portions being in communication with said ink container;

said plurality of ink supplying portions being adapted to receive said complementary plurality of ink receiving portions to facilitate supplying ink from said ink container to said ink storage chamber;

said recording head including a first positioning component adjacent to said plurality of ink receiving portions, and said ink cartridge including a second positioning component adjacent to said plurality of ink supplying portions; and

wherein said first and second positioning components are configured to engage each other so as to align said plurality of ink receiving portions relative to said plurality of ink supplying portions.

2. An ink supply system according to claim 1, wherein the first positioning component is disposed adjacent to a pair of the plurality of ink receiving portions, and wherein the second positioning component is disposed adjacent to a complementary pair of the plurality of ink supplying portions.

3. An ink supply system according to claim 2, wherein the first positioning component is disposed between the pair of the plurality of ink receiving portions, and wherein the second positioning component is disposed between the complementary pair of the plurality of ink supplying portions.

4. An ink supply system according to claim 1, wherein the first positioning component includes a protrusion and the second positioning component includes a hole adapted to receive said protrusion therein.

5. An ink supply system according to claim 4, wherein the protrusion and the plurality of ink receiving portions have lengths, and wherein said length of said protrusion is longer than said lengths of said plurality of ink receiving portions.

6. An ink supply system according to claim 1, wherein the second positioning component includes a protrusion and the first positioning component includes a hole adapted to receive said protrusion therein.

7. An ink supply system according to claim 6, wherein the protrusion and the plurality of ink receiving portions have lengths, and wherein said length of said protrusion is longer than said lengths of said plurality of ink receiving portions.

8. An ink supply system according to claim 1, wherein the recording apparatus is an ink jet recording apparatus.

9. An ink supply system according to claim 1, wherein the ink cartridge includes a waste ink container in communication with the second positioning component.

10. An ink cartridge for supplying ink to a recording apparatus having a recording head configured to discharge ink, said recording head including an ink storage chamber storing ink therein, a plurality of ink receiving portions communicating with the ink storage chamber and a protrusion defined between a pair of adjacent ink receiving portions, said ink cartridge comprising:

an ink containing portion containing ink therein;

a plurality of ink supply portions corresponding to the plurality of ink receiving portions, the plurality of ink supply portions in communication with the ink containing portion; and

an engagement portion provided between a pair of adjacent ink supply portions corresponding to the pair of adjacent ink receiving portions, wherein the engagement portion

is capable of engaging said protrusion so as to align the plurality of ink supply portions with the corresponding plurality of ink receiving portions.

11. An ink cartridge according to claim 10, wherein said plurality of ink supply portions include at least three ink supply portions for yellow ink, magenta ink and cyan ink, respectively, and said engagement portion is disposed between the ink supply portion for yellow ink and the ink supply portion for magenta ink.

12. An ink cartridge according to claim 10, wherein said engagement portion is a port configured to receive said protrusion so as to align the plurality of ink receiving portions and the corresponding plurality of ink supply portions relative to each other.

13. An ink cartridge according to claim 10, further comprising a waste ink container in communication with the port.